

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0008] as follows:

-- [0008]       To solve this technical problem, a method of distillation, especially of ethanol from a mash, is proposed, in which feed is supplied to a First distillation column (often referred to as a stripper), and a distillate of the first distillation column is fed into a second distillation column (a rectifying column), and which is characterized, ~~in accordance with Claim 1,~~ by the fact that in a first and/or last process step, the feed and/or a distillate of the second distillation column is purified by a membrane separation process. --